

Interior shall proclaim as reservation for the benefit of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians the parcel of land now held in trust by the United States and having the legal description as follows: That portion of Section 19, Township 41 North, Range 3 West, Michigan Meridian, described as: All of the NW1/4SW1/4 and all of the S1/2SW1/4 Northerly of a line described as beginning 650 feet Northerly along the centerline of Highway "Mackinac Trail" from the intersection of said centerline with the South Section line of Section 19, Township 41 North, Range 3 West, thence Northeasterly to the Southeast corner of the NW1/4SW1/4 of said Section, containing 65 acres, more or less (except the highway right-of-way and easements of record).

(b) **APPLICABLE LAW; EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The Secretary's proclamation shall be pursuant to section 7 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 467) and shall be deemed effective as of April 19, 1988.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the committee amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Committee amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

H.R. 2120

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LAND TO BE PROCLAIMED RESERVATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior shall proclaim as reservation for the benefit of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians the parcel of land now held in trust by the United States and having the legal description as follows: That portion of Section 19, Township 41 North, Range 3 West, Michigan Meridian, described as: All of the NW1/4SW1/4 and all of the S1/2SW1/4 Northerly of a line described as beginning 650 feet Northerly along the centerline of Highway "Mackinac Trail" from the intersection of said centerline with the South Section line of Section 19, Township 41 North, Range 3 West, thence Northeasterly to the Southeast corner of the NW1/4SW1/4 of said Section, containing 65 acres, more or less (except the highway right-of-way and easements of record).

(b) **APPLICABLE LAW; EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The Secretary's proclamation shall be pursuant to section 7 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 467) and the property shall be deemed a reservation as of April 19, 1988, for purposes of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, this measure addresses an inequity caused by the failure of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to act in a timely manner on a request first made in 1983. Introduced by our colleague, Representative BART STUPAK, this measure would declare land held in trust for a Tribe located in Michigan as part of the Tribe's reservation.

Shortly after the land was placed into trust in 1983, the Tribe made the first of several requests to have the land declared a part of its

reservation. Eventually, the Bureau of Indian Affairs took various actions leading the Tribe to believe that the land was a part of the Tribe's reservation.

However, in February, 2006, the Interior Department reversed course and informed the Tribe that the land placed into trust in 1983 was not part of the Tribe's Reservation. The pending measure clarifies and rectifies the situation.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE, OREGON LAND CONVEYANCE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 2863) to authorize the Coquille Indian Tribe of the State of Oregon to convey land and interests in land owned by the Tribe.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 2863

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LAND AND INTERESTS OF COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE, OREGON.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), the Coquille Indian Tribe of the State of Oregon (including any agent or instrumentality of the Tribe) (referred to in this section as the "Tribe"), may transfer, lease, encumber, or otherwise convey, without further authorization or approval, any land (including fee simple land) or interest in land owned by the Tribe.

(b) **NONAPPLICABILITY TO CERTAIN CONVEYANCES.**—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to any transfer, encumbrance, lease, or other conveyance of any land or interest in land of the Tribe that occurred before January 1, 2007.

(c) **EFFECT OF SECTION.**—Nothing in this section invalidates or otherwise alters or affects any restriction on alienation applicable to land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe or any member of the Tribe.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the committee amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Committee amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

H.R. 2863

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LAND AND INTERESTS OF COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE, OREGON.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), the Coquille Indian Tribe of the State of Oregon (including any agent or instrumentality of the

Tribe) (referred to in this section as the "Tribe"), may transfer, lease, encumber, or otherwise convey, without further authorization or approval, any land (including fee simple land) or interest in land owned by the Tribe.

(b) **NONAPPLICABILITY TO CERTAIN CONVEYANCES.**—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to any transfer, encumbrance, lease, or other conveyance of any land or interest in land of the Tribe that occurred before January 1, 2007.

(c) **EFFECT OF SECTION.**—Nothing in this section invalidates or otherwise alters or affects any restriction on alienation applicable to land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe or any member of the Tribe.

(d) **LIABILITY.**—The United States shall not be held liable to any (including the Tribe or any agent or instrumentality of the Tribe) for any term of, or any loss resulting from the term of any transfer, lease, encumbrance, or conveyance of land made pursuant to this Act unless the United States or an agent or instrumentality of the United States is a party to the transaction or the United States would be liable pursuant to any other provision of law. This subsection shall not apply to land transferred or conveyed by the Tribe to the United States to be held, in trust for the benefit of the Tribe.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, in 1790, the Non-Intercourse Act was enacted reserving the right to acquire land, or an interest in land, owned by an Indian tribe in the United States. It was intended to prevent third parties from taking advantage of Indians by prohibiting the lease, transfer, encumbrance or conveyance of lands from an Indian tribe without Federal approval.

Our colleague, Representative PETER DEFAZIO, introduced the pending measure to exempt the conveyance of non-trust lands made by a Tribe located in Oregon. In this particular case, the law is preventing this Tribe from fully engaging in non-gaming economic development on fee land because Federal approval is required for leases between the Tribe and third parties.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF MICHIGAN LAND CONVEYANCE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 2952) to authorize the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Indians of the State of Michigan to convey land and interests in land owned by the Tribe.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Virgin Islands?